

Docket Number: 10991902-3
Application No. 10/649,564
Preliminary Amendment

REMARKS

Claims 41 – 60 are in the application.

Patentability of the Claims

Earlier versions of claims 41 – 45 were rejected as anticipated by Kikuchi, US Patent No. 4,657,415.

Kikuchi was said to disclose:

“rotating the carriage (14) about the rod (15) with the carriage (14) remaining at the latching location (A) to make the latch member (17, 18, 21, 22) engage the first chassis part (32... .” (emphasis added)

Claim 41 as amended here specifies that *“the latch member is mounted to the carriage at a position such that the carriage rotation causes the latch member to engage the first chassis part.”*

In Kikuchi (column 4, lines 36 – 45, Fig. 5) the carriage is slid along (translated; not rotated) the rod *“in the direction of the arrow 34 until the [latch member] 22 engages the [chassis part] 32.”* Thus, it is not carriage rotation that causes the latch member to engage the chassis part.

Claim 45 has been amended to specify the step of *“locating the latch mechanism so that the movement of the latch mechanism occurs as a result of the carriage rotation.”* This step is not found in Kikuchi.

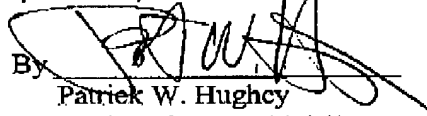
In Kikuchi, it may be possible to arrange things (as shown in dashed lines of Fig. 5) so that the carriage rotates as a result of movement of the latch mechanism. Such an operation of Kikuchi, however, reverses the cause and effect of the claimed latch and carriage and, therefore, is incomparable to the last-recited step of claim 45. Put another way, applicant submits that the claimed method of rotating A to cause movement of B is not anticipated by an operation that moves B to cause rotation of A.

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Conclusion

Applicant believes that all of the claims are in condition for allowance, and an early notification to that effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions, he is invited to contact applicant's attorney at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
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